A Summary of Important Events.

THE Chamber of Commerce of every eaport in Germany has protested against the exclusion of American pork.

THE number of agrarian outrages in Ireland during November was eightynine. This contrasts favorably with previous lists.

A PEW days ago the last rail on the Chicago & Atlantic Railway was laid near Huntington, Ind., giving the Eric Road access to Chicago, od alitil mini

THE Mexican Government has appointed two commissioners to act with Gen. Grant and Mr. Trescott in preparing a com-

THE official canvass of Dakota gives John B. Raymond, Republican, for Congress, a majority of 30,286. The total vote of the Territory is 47,373.

A TRUST company in New York was recently handed \$5,950,000 in behalf of the Panama Canal Company, to finish payment for the Panama Railroad.

> It is reported that Nana commands the Apaches who are raiding in Mexico. The whole State of Chihuahua was on the 10th said to be under arms.

A VERDICT for \$25,000 has been secured by James F. Malloy, of Edgefield, S. C., against the New York Herald for libel. The case would be appealed.

THE issue of standard silver dollars from the Washington Mint for the week ended December 9 was \$1,189,499, against 394,087 for the same period last year.

THE large Riverside Rolling Mill and the Briton Cotton Mill, at New Castle, Del., have closed for an indefinite period. Four hundred hands were thrown out of employ-

THE official vote of Iowa on Secretary of State at the recent election was: Hall, Republican, 149,059; Walker, Democrat, 112,180; Gaston, Greenbacker, 30,817. Hall's plurality, 36,681; majority over all,

ACCORDING to the report of the Commissioner of Railroads, at the end of June last the Union Pacific Company owed the Government \$63,620,570, and the Central Pacific was indebted to the amount of \$52,-

THE Government has brought suit at New York against Harrison Johnston, formerly a Treasury agent, for the recovery of nearly \$2,000,000 arising from the sale of confiscated cotton, for which he had failed to account,

A RECENT dispatch from Berlin says ence had been swept away.

THE Prefect has ordered the police to expel all Jews residing within the municipal boundaries of St. Petersburg without official permission. The Senate has decided that the Jews are incapable of holding landed property in Russia.

GROUND has been broken on the Mexican side of the border line for a railroad through Lower California, crossing the Colorado River near its mouth, thence through Sonora to Calabassas, Arizona. The capital was secured in England.

SECRETARY FOLGER has ordered the canceling of bonds delivered to the United States by the executor of the late Foseph L. Lewis, amounting to \$950,000. These bonds will be included in the reduction of the debt for the present month.

THE official canvass of Wisconsin, reently completed, shows that at the last election the total vote in the State was 216,-924, of which the Democrats polled 103,630; Republicans, 94,606; Prohibition, 13,800; Greenback, 2,406. The Senate will stand 17. Republicans, 15 Democrats, 1 Independent. The Assembly 45 Republicans, 53 Democrats, 2 Independents, giving the Democrats 3 majority on foint ballet.

COMPTROLLER KNOX recently submitted to Attorney-General Brewster certain questions in regard to the acceptance of checks by national banks in excess of the amount actually on deposit, and showed that in one day nine banks in New York had certified cheeks amounting to nine times their whole capital. The Attorney-General decided that such operations were clearly in violation of the laws of 1869 and 1882.

A DISPATCH from Chihushua, Mex., states that the recent massacre in Casa Grande by Indians proves to have been a horrible affair. A band of Apaches, numbering five hundred, crossed the border, descended upon the little town, and began an indiscriminate massacre, fully seventyfive persons falling victims. Several girls and women were carried off by the savages. A large quantity of stock and other property was stolen. The houses of the unfortunate Mexicans were burned and their dead bodies were stripped of their clothing and jewelry. The murdered persons were among the wealthiest class, several of the most prominent families being among the victims. Troops had been dispatched to the scene, but the Indians having a long start, their capture was not expected.

THE transit of Venus was successfully observed at Chicago, where Profs. Hough, Burnham and Garrison took the time of the contacts, and secured ten photographs, and Rev. Dr. Swazey made morning observations. The French astronomers at the old fort at St. Augustine, Florida, were highly satisfied with their labors. The German party at Aiken, South Carolina, partially failed in their object. Prof. Waldo and his associates at Yale College reported satisfactory results, Prof. Wilson securing 150 full plates. At San Francisco forty-eight photographs of the transit were obtained. Prof. Hall, after great difficulty, took 204 photographs at San Antonio, and Prof. Honzeau. the Belgian astronomer, took 120 measurements. The transit was totally invisible from Greenwich Observatory at London.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

Br a recent fire the Royal Alhambra Theater and eight other buildings in London were destroyed. Two stock trains collided near Syracuse, on the New York Central Road, the

other day. Many cattle were killed, and the damage to railroad property was heavy. THE Governor of the Territory was killed by a female Nihilist, lately banished

By the explosion of a lamp Mrs. Gregory, residing near Cincinnati, had her clothing set on fire a few mornings ago, and she was burned to death.

In a railroad tunnel near Portland, Ore., a premature explosion the other day killed four Chinamen and dangerously injured four others.

A FEW days ago Captain Emons and three men were lost with a yacht going from Long Branch to Barnegat Bay.

AT its recent meeting in Pittsburgh, Pa., the Western Iron Association stated that orders for 200,000 tons of steel rails had been given since the decrease in price, and there appeared to have been no ground for the recent fears of a total suspension of busi-

ness by the iron works. By a railroad accident near Hinton, W. Va., three persons were killed and several others were injured a few afternoons

Ar Saginaw City, Mich., the works of the Saginaw Barrel Company, together with 2,000,000 feet of lumber, were destroyed by fire a few mornings ago. Loss,

\$175,000. JOSEPH BORDEN was instantly killed and Frank Bauer fatally injured by a cavein of top ore at Gobel's mines, near Bowertown, Pa., a few days ago. Borden's face was partly torn off and both legs and an arm

were broken. He leaves a large family. THE house of Col. Wm. Harris, of Cleveland, O., was ransacked by burglars the other night, and \$12,000 worth of jewelry was taken.

ROYAL O. STORRS, a woolen manufacturer of Dedham, Mass., who failed retly for \$500,000, has been indicted for obtaining \$10,000 from a national bank under false pretenses.

JOE CORDEN, the prize-fighter, who postage to two cents. was sentenced at New York in 1877 to ten years' imprisonment in Sing Sing Prison for an assault upon two policemen, has been

THE wife and child of a Russian Jew, claim between Grand Forks and Devil's Lake, D. T., a few days ago.

village of Deckerville, Sanilac County, Mich., prominent citizen, was instantly killed in cents his grist mill, the other day, while adjusting a belt. Both legs were torn off below the knee. He was fifty years old, and leaves

WILLIAM F. THOMPSON, who some time ago was discharged from the employ of Farnham & Lovejoy, lumber dealers at Min-neapolis, Minn., has been arrested for the embezzlement of \$20,000 from the firm.

THE tug George W. Childs and steam yacht Idle Hour foundered off Hatteras in a recent storm. All on board were lost.

THE vegetable soup works of H. C. that the loss by floods in the Rhenish dis- Fero, at Lyndonville, N. Y., burned the tricts amounted to millions of marks. The other night. Loss, \$45,000. The adjoining damage to the town of Doisburg alone was building were saved by the free use of cider a million marks. Sixty houses near May- from the tanks near by. One thousand gallons were used by the bucketful.

It is reported that frauds amounting to over \$100,000 have been discovered in the management of the financial affairs of Louis-

FOURTEEN inches of snow fell at Watertown, N. Y., on the 10th, and the storm was still in progress.

PETER PHELAN, an expert, was the other day called to examine an old steam boiler at Bayview, Cal. He had completed his examination, and decided that it was not dangerous, when the thing exploded and killed bim.

It is announced that six men were drowned recently while attempting to cross

the ice on Moosehead Lake, in Maine. THE Potomae River was on the 10th frozen solid from Analostan Island to Little Falls, a fact unprecedented within the memory of the oldest river men.

An incendiary fire a few mornings ago, the second within a week, destroyed an entire block of business buildings at Petersburg, Ind.

By the capsizing of an oyster sloop, used as a mail boat, near Fort Myers, Fla., the other evening, three sons of John Bright and the son of Margaret Tierce, whose ages range from eight to fifteen years, were THE inventor of the turbine water-

wheel, William F. Blakeney, died at Dayton. O., a few nights ago. A NATIONAL Convention of Woman

Suffragists will be held in Washington January 23, 24 and 25. MICHAEL GALLAGHER and John Mc-Allister fought in a Brooklyn (N. Y.) saloon

a few days ago, and both received fatal wounds. RECENTLY the Marietta & Cincinnati Railroad was sold under foreclosure. Robert Garrett, of Baltimore, was the purchaser.

EIGHT buildings on the public square at Bradford, Pa., and three on an adjoining street, valued at \$50,000, were destroyed by

fire a few days ago. Four colored resurrectionists were recently arraigned in a Philadelphia court and committed in default of \$5,000 each. Twenty-five policemen were required to protect them from a mob of their own race. The demonstrator of anatomy at Jefferson College testified that he had been furnished about 150 bodies per year.

THE residence of Newell Jolly, near Gallipolis, O., was destroyed by fire a few nights ago. Mr. Jolly, who was quite aged. was burned to death, and his wife was also

probably fatally burned. Sin Hugh ALLEN, of Montreal, the great Canadian ship-builder and vesselowner, died suddenly in Edinburg, Scotland, the other morning. He was born in Ayrebire, Scotland, in 1810, and emigrated to Canada at the age of sixteen. He leaves eight danghters and four sons and a fortune

of \$15,000,000. A THIEF in a theater at Barcelons. Spain, raised a false alarm of fire a few evenings ago. One person was killed and eighteen injured in the panic which fol-

JUDGE LAWRENCE, of the Supreme Court of New York, having decided that magistrates can only impose fines of ten dollars, two Police Justices have released over two hundred prisoners from Blackwell's Island, and if the example be followed by other magistrates fifteen bundred disreputable characters would 'pe turned loose upon New York City.

THE Denver (Col.) Fire Insurance Company, which was organized in 1880 with a capital of \$1,00°4000, has collapsed. It was said that there was never any money in the treasury, and that the only assets were un-secured notes and unimproved lands with imperfect tatles.

THE boiler in J. Vincent & Son's sawmill, near Shawneetown, Ill., exploded a few days ago, and the following persons were killed: William Montgomery, Charles Glass, Henry Hughes, Charles Baker, George Price, William Price, Sam McLaughlin, William Kennedy and Wade Kee. Two other men were badly hurt, one of them, it was thought, fatally.

AT Belle Vernon, Pa., the other morning a copper still, containing twenty-five barrels of whisky, exploded, destroying the distillery and the United States bonded warehouse. Loss, \$400,000. One man was killed.

THE managers of the recent Garfield fair erected in the rotunda of the national capitol a wall of boards to protect the historical paintings. The wall turned a current of hot air on those works, partfally destroying those representing the baptism of Pocahontas and the pilgrims at prayer, which cost \$10,000 each.

A PROMINENT painter and artist, John D. Lackie, committed suicide by cutting his throat a few nights ago at his home in Erie, Pa. Financial reverses were supposed to

have been the cause. WHILE skating recently five persons vere drowned by breaking through the ice n London, Eng.

A schoot-reacher at Cumberland; O., named William C. Frazier, stabbed two pupils recently in a general fight with the big boys in school. One died in a few min-

FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

DEC. 6 .- In the Senate, petitions were presented to increase pensions of persons who lost an arm or leg in the service. A resolution calling for a complete list of all persons on the pension roll was adopted.....In the House a resolution was adopted to embody in the Post-office bill a clause reducing letter

DEC. 7 .- A bill was introduced in the enate to repeal the Internal Revenue act, In the House the Indian bill, appropriating

DEC. 8 .- Numerous petitions were presented in the Senate on behalf of tobacco named Gelenger, froze to death on their manufacturers and one-armed pensioners. claim between Grand Forks and Devil's Lake, D. T., a few days ago.

CHARLES DECKER, founder of the fillage of Deckerville, Sanilac County, Mich., a prominent citizen, was instantly killed in a prominent citizen, was instantly killed in a prominent citizen.

> DEC. 9.-After various petitions had been disposed of in the Senate, a resolution was adopted calling on the Secretary of the Treasadopted calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for information as to the cost of collecting the revenue and the number of employes in each district. The Bankruptcy bill was taken up and discussed. A bill was introduced to make restrictions against political assessments more binding..... In the House, a resolution was adopted calling on the Secretary of War for information whether or not the money empropristed in the River and Herbor kill ey appropriated in the River and Harbor bill was for work in the interest of commerce and navigation. The Consular and Diplomatic bill was passed.

DEC. 11.-Bills were introduced in the enate to prohibit political assessments and for increase of pensions......In the House, a bill to stop the coinage of silver dollars was introduced. Mr. Springer offered a resolu-tion for a Constitutional Amendment relative to the election of President and Vice-President and members of Congress. It fixes the terms of the President and Vice-President at six years, and makes the President inclinible to election for the next succeeding term; abolishes the Electoral College and provides for a direct vote for President. Every State shall be entitled to as many votes as it has Sena tors and Representatives in Congress, and the vote of each State shall be east in proportion to the popular vote in the State for each can didate. The term of members of Congress is fixed at three years, and each session shall begin the first Wednesday in January. In counting the votes cast for President in joint convention each Senator and member shall be

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

In the United States Senate on the 12th the Civil-Service Reform bill was discussed at great length. In the House the Post-office and Agricultural Appropriation bills were reported. A resolution calling for information as to what action had been taken for relief of certain soldiers from the

charge of desertion was adopted. MRS. COLLINS, wife of a prominent Bradford (Pa.) man, who had been confined in the State Insane Asylum at Buffalo, N. Y., was taken out on a writ of habeas corpus the other day, and it was stated that she had never been insane. It was alleged there was trickery in the manner of her commitment.

THE total receipts for tolls on the New York State canals for the season of 1882 up to December 1, were \$655,195. For the season of 1881 they were \$631,621. Last year there were 241 days of navigation.

This year there were 241. THE Land Court has decided the test case affecting 1,200 tenants in County Monaghan, Ireland. The decision was in favor o the tenants.

THE nominations of General Pope and Colonel McKenzie, to be Major-General and Brigadier-General respectively, have been confirmed by the United States Senate.

ALEXANDER GARDNER, who achieved national reputation during the war by his photographic work with the Army of the Potomac, died the other morning, in Washington, aged sixty-one. He was the originator of the National Relief Association.

FREMONT, O., for some time had two murderers in the penitentiary, named Knapp and Welsh. A pardon was recently secured for the former, on the ground that he was dying of consumption, but he reached home in robust health, while the corpse of Welsh speedily followed. The question was, who made the mistake?

THE Marquis of Lorne received several threafening letters a few days ago, and an escort of soldiers was ordered to accompany his train over the Southern Pacific.

RECENT changes have been made in the English Cabinet, as follows: Lord Derby, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lineaster; Lord Hartington, Secretary of War, and Right Hon. Hugh Childers, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Gladstone resigning the latter office.

A PORTION of the War Office at Madrid, Spain, burned to the ground a few days since. Twenty persons were injured, one seriously. The library and part of the archives were destroyed. The King was present during the tire, and assisted in sub-

duing the flames. By an explosion at the Enterprise Mills at Manayunk, Pa., recently, two persons were killed and several others were MISSOURI STATE NEWS. A Question of Eligibility,

The question as to the eligibility of certain County Treasurers under section 5,362, Revised Statutes, which provides that no person shall be elected to that office more than two successive terms, has been brought before the Governor, and after careful examination the Governor concludes that the above section does not disqualify those County Treasurers who were elected prior to 1880, or in other words the time previous to 1880 is not to be included as a part of the two consecutive terms intended by the section. Governor Crittenden thinks that any

other construction would make the law retroactive in its operation. He also says that as there is a doubt as to the construction of the section that doubt should be given in favor of the action of the people in electing such Treasurers. Jackson County is interested in this question, as her Treas-urer has just been elected for the third term, and many other counties are in the same condition.

Miscellaneous Items. The grand jury at Kansas City has returned an indictment against R. H. Skues. the discharged sexton of the Union Cemetery, for arson in the third degree. One night recently the sexton's house at the cemetery was mysteriously destroyed by fire and with it the record of burials, and it was charged that Skues was the incendiary and that the destruction of the records was the object sought. Skues and his assistant were recently discharged from the employ of the Cemetery Association, and upon failing to levy blackmail upon its President, M. J. Payne, they gave away to the reporters the facts of the desecration of the grave of Mrs. Hudson by professional body snatchers. Skues and his assistant are both in jail on a charge of felony in attempting to levy blackmail.

Jeff Stevens, a long-haired youth, who was said to have earned a bad reputation by reason of having committed sundry deeds of evil, walked into a police station at Kansas City recently and surrendered himself to the authorities. He was said to be a great admirer of Frank James, and sought to imitate that noted personage by surrendering to Chief Speirs in a manner somewhat like that of James, who surrendered to Gov. Crittenden. Stevens was wanted on a charge of robbing a woman. The police said that the cold weather was a formidable incentive toward surrender.

At St. Joseph a few mornings ago the jury in the case of William Toole, charged with the murder of H. B. Donnelly, brought in a verdict of not guilty, after being out twenty-two hours. The verdict was not unexpected.

Missouri breeders of Merino sheep are sending beavy amounts of wool to market.

cited manner. Suddenly the stranger, without any apparent provocation, drew a revolver and without a word fired a shot which struck Sabins in the right side of the abdomen, inflicting a probably fatal wound. The stranger was a young fellow of some twenty-two years, a stranger in the city,

the world since September 18, 1881.

A movement is on foot among the business men at St. Joseph to establish a system of electric lights throughout the

Mr. George N. Boutwell and Mrs. Julia A. Boutwell, duly provided with a marriage license, called upon Judge Bailey at Kansas City the other day, and, in his business-like way, he soon pronounced the words that made them one. This was not an ordinary marriage, but one of extraordinary interest, from the fact that the lady and gentleman, so it was stated, had formerly been husband and wife, had separated from each other on account of unfortunate misunderstandings, had been divorced, made up, the old love was renewed, | read or write:

and the marriage vows again taken. Postmasters have recently been com missioned as follows: Anderson Keith Hawkeye, Pulaski County; Henry R. Newell, Ozark Iron-Works, Phelps County Albert Sanders, colored, was hanged at Charleston a few days ago for the murder of Moses Wing, also colored. Both these

men were employed by Stephen Bird, at Bird's Point, opposite Cairo, and were jealous of each other over the affections of s colored girl. On the night of November 19 1881, Sanders, rather the worse for liquor. west to Wing's cabin and began to abuse him. Wing tried to put him out, when Sanders drew a large knife and thrust it in Wing's back. Wing tried to run, but his assailant followed and caught him, dealing three more terrible wounds, one of which severed the jugular vein. Neighbors ran up just in time to witness the murder and capture the murderer, but the latter eseaped the same night. He was recaptured in a few days, just when crossing into Ken-

Wm. Scruby & Son will open a lnm-

ber yard in Wheeling. The teacher of the grammar department of the Grant City schools, Mrs. R.Lupton, is sixty-five years old, and has taught school for forty-nine years.

A district fair, with \$10,000 capital, has been placed on its feet at Cameron. The A. O. U. W., of Grant City, recently dedicated their new half. State Legislature meets January 3.

W. Pratter, recently arrested in Dong. las County for assaulting an old man with a knife, made his escape from Constable Petter the other night by jumping from a hotel window. He was chained to the bed, but during the night broke his fetters and

Mrs. R. S. Dunmeyer, the first wife of Guiteau, the assassin, was in Kansas City visiting relatives a few days ago. Since her appearance as a witness in the Guiteal trial she has been living quietly in her Kaneas home, where she was at the time of his ex-

Sedalia is to have a Third National

Bank: capital, \$100,000.

The report of Postmaster-General Howe for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1882, shows total disbursements of the postal-service during the year of \$40,482.021; ordinary receipts, \$41,-\$15,642; receipts from money orders, \$360,767; excess of receipts, \$1,34,388. For the first time in thirty-one years the postal service is not a burden upon the Treasury. In order to determine the real cost of the postal-service for the past year these should be deducted from the total disbursements \$142,386, which, though paid out last year, was for service renfor the past year there should be accured from the total disbursements \$442,386, which, though paid out last year, was for service rendered previous years. There should be added \$228,550, estimated due for service rendered last year. There should also be added \$1.178,174 earned by railway companies for transportation of mails between the Missouri River and the Pacific. The account thus stated shows an excess of earnings of but \$330,050. The deficiency the previous fiscal year was \$2.445,3.8. In 1860 the deficiency was more than \$10,000,000. Some part of this great improvement is due to the wonderful growth and prosperity of the country, but the larger part is due to improved methods in the administration of the service.

The heaviest item of expenditure is for transportation of the mails on railways. The next heaviest is that for the pay of Postmasters. These two items must swell with the Column of business, since the rate of compensation is proportioned to the amount of business done. The expenditure next in rank is

Report of Postmaster-General Howe.

colume of business, since the rate of compensation is proportioned to the amount of business done. The expenditure next in rank is for what is known as the star service. That includes all mail transportation not on railways nor on steamboats. The amount and the cost of that service is left almost wholly to the arbitrary control of the department. For the year ended June 30, 1881, the star service covered 76,557,355; for the year ended June 30, 1882, the same service covered 76,23,867 miles, and cost \$553,849. The estimates for 1884 promiss financial results still more finitering than those realized the last fiscal year. Those estimates are: Ordinary revenues, \$50,23,237; from money orders met revenue, \$50,23,237; from money orders met revenue, \$50,23,237; from the revenue, \$30,23,35.

The Postmaster-General culls some statistics from the report of First Assistant Postmaster-General culls some statistics from the report of First Assistant Postmaster-General culls and the second of t

tics from the report of First Assistant Post-master-General Hatton, and proceeds: "I quite concur in the recommendation of the First Assistant Postmaster-General for a ref-ormation and augmentation of the blank agencies. Still more cordially do I recom-mend the suggestions of that officer as to the agencies. Still more cordially do I recommend the suggestions of that officer as to the general reo ganization of his office. The very able report of the First Assistant Posmaster-General calls attention to the great difficulty experienced in adjusting salaries to postmasters of the first three classes, and in making allowances for office expenses to those of the first two classes. He does not exaggerate those difficulties. It may well be doubted if he could exaggerate them. Necessity herself, though admitted to be the mother of invention, could not invent a more cumbrous or complex method of adjusting salaries."

Spenking of cierk-hire, the report says: Speaking of clerk-hire, the report says: "Postmasters are eager for large allowances. "Postmasters are eager for large allowances. The most importunate are apt to be the best served. They ask the carliest and the oftenest. They employ every kind of entreaty, and offer every sort of influence, personal and political. The clerk must act upon such case as the Postmaster presents. He has no means of rebutting it. It is not surprising, therefore, that a recent investigation by the First Assistant Postmaster-General resulted in a reduction at eight offices amounting in the aggregate to \$54.50. Congress is invoked to make one more effort to engraft upon the postal service a system of deposits for small sums, and the recommendation is made that postage on second-class matter be abolished After the fullest consideration I have been able to give to the subject of postal telegraph. able to give to the subject of postal telegraph. I am forced to the conclusion that the time has fully come when the telegraph and postal service should be embraced under one management." After assigning reasons for this conclusion, the Postmaster-General continues: "When competition profits the public who purchase the service, it becomes injurious to the companies which sell. When it becomes injurious to the companies connection is ex-The Camden County Jail was destroyed by fire a few nights ago. It contained but one prisoner, and the fire was supposed to be the result of an ineffectual attempt to escape. He was nearly dead when rescued. Loss \$2,500; no insurance.

At St. Joseph a few evenings ago Richard Sabins, a street-car driver, was shot through the abdomen by a party unknown. The parties were standing in a saloon conversing in an apparently unexcited manner. Suddenly the stranger. of the purchasing company, it will demand from the public dividends on the capital invested to extinguish the rival. The only security capital can have against these recurr-ing raids is to surrender the business to the Government. The only protection the public can have against these multiplied exactions is for the Government to assume exclusive con-trol over the transmission of domestic mes-

twenty-two years, a stranger in the city, and, judging from his appearance, a country boy.

William Hale, formerly member of the Kansas City Fire Department, died of consumption a few nights ago. Hale had held the medal as champion clog-dancer of the world since Sentember 18, 1881 of postmasters is limited, not by appropriation bills but by fixed statutes, and to the ation bills but by fixed statutes, and to the extent of their legal compensation the gross revenues of the postal service are not only appropriated but hypothecat d to their payment. Postmasters collicat the postal revenues, and they are authorized by law to deduct from the moneys in their hands their legal compensation. They account to the Treasury for the excess only. If not a dollar is appropriated, the Postmasters will icceive their salaries all the same. It seems hardly practicable, therefore, to effect much in the interest of economy by appropriating \$5,001,000 to pay Postmasters, while we place \$40,000,000 in their hands out of which they may help themselves to the full extent of their legal dues.

Illiteracy in the United States.

The following census bulletin shows in detail the number of persons over ten years of age in the United States and Territories who are returned at the last census as unable to

Un'd States Alabama Arizona	Enum	Num- ber.	Per cent.	44	1 4
Alabama Arizona	36,761,607		2	Num ber	Per cent.
Arizona		4,923,451	13.4	6,239,958	17.0
Arkansas	851,780 32,929 531,870	153,229	10.7	433,447 6,842 202,015	17.7 38.0
Colorado Connec'cut. Dakota	681.062 158,220 497,304 99,849	48,583 9,321 20,986 3,034	5.9 4.2	53,430 10,474 28,424 4,821	6.6
Delaware D. of Col'bia Florida	110,856 100,9 0 7 184,650	16,912 21,541 70,219	15.8 15.7	19,414	17.5
Idaho	1,043,840 25,005 2,269,315	446,683 1,884 96,809	4.3	523,416 1,778 145,397	7.1 6.4
Indiana lowa Kansas Kentucky	1,468,095 1,181,641 704,297 1,163,498	70.008 28,117 25,503 258,186	3.6	110,701 46,609 39,476 348,332	3.9 5.6
Louisiana Maine Maryland	649,070 519,009 695,364	297,312 18,181 111,387	45.8 3.5	318,3% 22,170 134,488	49.1 4.8 19.3
Mass setts Michigan Minnesota	1,432,183 1,236,686 552,977	75,635 47,112 20,551		92,980 63,728 31,548	6.2
Mississippi. Missouri Montana Nebraska	753,693 1,557,631 31,989 318,271	315,012 138,818 1,530 7,830	8.9 4.8 2.5	373,201 208,754 1,707 11,528	13.4 5.3
N. Hamps'e New Jersey	50,665 286,188 865,591	3,708 11,983 39,136	7.3 4.2 4.5	4,069 14,302 53,249	8.0 5.0
N. Mexico New York. N. Carolina	87,966 3,981,428 959,9 51	52,994 166,635 867,590	4.2	57,150 219,630 468,975	5.5 48.3
Oregon Penn'vania. R. Island	2,399,307 130,585 3,20 (,215	86,754 5,370 146,138	4.1	131,847 7,425 228,014	5.7 7.1
S. Carolina. Tennessee Texas	220,461 667,450 1,002,130 1,064,190	17,456 321,780 294,345 256,223	18.2	24,733 369,848 410,722 316,432	35.4
Vermont.	97,194 264,052 1,059,034	4,851 12,993 300,495	5.0	8,826 15,837 450,352	6.0
Washingt'n W. Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming	55,720 428,587 965,712	3,191 5°,011 38,633	2.7	3,889 85,376 55,653	7.0

A BRIDE and bridegroom having been shown politely over the White House the other day by one of the private secretaries or other men in waiting, the groom, in taking leave of him, handed him a dollar bill, and cried out: "Take that, Mr. Arthur: if I'd have come and seen you before election, darned if I wou'do't have voted for you," and the Secre-tary kept the dollar and the compliment without a word. You see he hated to undeceive the happy fellow and deprive him of his surposed pleasure in having seen President AyU. S. Railroad Commissioner's Report.

WASHINGTON, December 10. In the annual report of the Commissioner of laflroads for the fiscal year ended June 20, 1882, the Commissioner says:

The unprecedent construction of railroads the present year deserves very thoughtful consideration. The Pacific companies are rapidly extending their lines to secure the trade in rapidly-developing sections, or make through connections with important distributing points, which will ultimately be of great value to the main lines. The money applicable to the "repayment of interest," five per cent. of the net earnings, and sinking fund and its requirements, derived from transportation receipts, will be \$18,804,014. The total cash payments to December 31, 1881, required from the companies, in addition to the retention of the entire compensation for services, are: Central Pacific, \$1,382,664; Central Branch Union Pacific, \$1,35; Union Pacific, \$901,837; total, \$2,185,454. The total indebtedness of the several subsidized Pacific railroads to the United States June 30, 18:2, was: Union Pacific, principal, \$35,530,512; accrued interest, \$30,-080,998; total, \$63,620,510; Central Pacific, principal, \$27,855,680: accrued interest, \$24,285,133; total, \$52,150,813; Sioux City & Pacific, principal,\$1,(2),320; accrued interest,\$1,415,447; total, \$2,048,767; Central Branch Union Pacific, principal, \$1.001.00; accused interest, \$1,531,803.23; total, \$3,101.808.26. Transportation services performed and money paid into the Treasury: Union Pacific, \$12,363,603; Central Pacific, \$6,004,665; Sioux City & Pacific, \$95,278; Central Branch Union Pacific, \$131,556; total, \$18,-592.10'. Belance in favor of the United States. but not due until maturity: Principal, 1895, 1892, \$103,314,786. The sinking-fund accounts amount, June 30, to \$2,716,221. The Commis sioner says:

"This fund has evidently not accomplished the result anticipated, and since April, 1881, may be regarded as having practically failed for want of suitable investment. In view of the low rate of interest returned from the investments made by the Secretary of the Treasury, I deem it my duty to recommend that Sec. 3, act of May 7, 1878, be amended so as to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to invest the sinking funds in first-mortgage bonds of the companies, or such bonds as have been issued to them by the United States, or in other good and sufficient securities, and convert the bonds now held by the United States in said sinking funds into money at market rates, and invest the same in like securities. As many doubts have been expressed as to the ability of the companies to meet their indebtedness at maturity, and as to the efficiency of the provisions for the sinking fund, I deem it proper to suggest whether it may not be profitable and highly desirable, with not be profitable and highly desirable, with the consent of the companies, to change the form of their indebtedness from a running book account into settlement and actual delivery of interest-bearing bonds for the amount found to be due on a convenient day, say July 1, 1883, at which time one-half of the interest will have been paid by the United States; let the ascertained amount be divided into, say, one hundred semi-annual installments, each to be represented by a redemption bond, one payable each six months, with interest upon the whole unpaid remainder of the debt, the lien to remain as it is." the debt, the tien to remain as it is."

The report says: "The report says:

"The adjustment of railroad rates is one of the most deficult and delicate questions of modern t mes, and it is specially complicated in the United States, where every trunk line runs through several States, each independent within its own jurisdiction, and jealous of all interference by the General Government. The interference by the General Government. The enormous extent of this interest and the rapidity of its growth, both in increase of milesge and tonnage, demands that its relation to the public shall be under some judicious legal control. Rates and discriminations are not entirely within the arbitrary determination of the railroad companies. They are subject to competitions which they cannot control upon the ocean, upon the lakes and upon the rivers. The great lakes and rivers, so peculiarly advantageously located as to trade, with their numerous far-reaching and widely-extended pavigable tributaries. carry water componavigable tributaries, carry water tition into almost every portion of the country, with the effect of so reducing general rates that the United States enjoys the cheapest railroad transportation in the world. As yet no just basis of general appli-cation for the adjustment of rates and discrim-inations has been found, and it is undentable that there are hardships, neither few nor small, arising from existing discriminations, often arbitrarily imposed, which affect disas-trously local trade at non-competing points. trously local trade at non-competing points. There is a growing and clamorous demand among the people that railroad management shall be subjected to the restraints of law; nor is railroad management adverse to reasonable control. It has become a necessity that 'wars' of rates shall be controlled in the interests of the people and the roads. Such 'wars' unsettle, within their operation, commercial values, affording sudden and unreasonable profits to the few and entailing heavy losses upon the others.

"The Railway Commissioners appointed in twenty one States," the report continues, "exercise a halthful influence over culroad management. But railroad transportation strictly confined within State jurisdiction is so limited

confined within State jurisdiction is so limited that it leaves the real difficulties unselved and nearly unaffected. The power of Congress over the whole subject can hardly be questioned. The Supreme Court of Illinois concedes it, and the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States seem to render it indisputable. A commission is recommended to take into consideration the whole question, and report to Congress facts necessary for in-telligent and efficient action upon the subject." The Commissioner speaks of the unnecessary and dangerous dissimilarity of railway sig-nals, and recommends the adoption of a uniform system. A review in detail of the opera-tions of the Pacific roads mentioned closes the report. The estimete of the expenses of the railroad office the next fiscal year is \$23,000.

Report of the Commissioner of Pensions.

WASHINGTON, December 10. The report of the Commissioner of Pensions for the fiscal year ended June 20, 1882, is issued. Commissioner Dudley says the Bounty-Land laws should be generally remodeled and simplified. Congress should give thoughtful consideration to the entire regrading of pensions, making disability rather than rank the measure of the pension, officers and men having been drawn from and returned to the same walks of civil life. There are now 117 different grades of pensioners. It is proposed to give an officer the benefit of his actual rank, as an act of simple justice. It is recommended also, in order to place all war claims more nearly upon the same footing, that the timitation in Sec. 4,713 be removed, so that cases barred by the three-year limitation shall have their date on the commencement at the time of filing the application, rather than that of the filing of the last piece of evidence. Widows and invalid soldiers of the regular army and navy, whose rights accrued since June 30, 1880, should be allowed reasonable time to file their applications, and pensions should date from the commencement of the accruing of the right, instead, as now, from the date of filing the application. A yearly salary of \$5,000 is recommended for Pension Agents. Speaking of the pension population the Commissioner expresses regret that no provision was made in the tenth census for its enumeration. The best approximation that can be made shows that, of 2.03,391 soldiers who enlisted during the war, pensions have been applied for hy or an account of soldi rs who enlisted during the war, pensions have been applied for by, or on account of, only twenty-six per cent. The report concludes with the statement, from the best available information, that it appears there is a surviving soldier population of a little over 1,000, out of which class for pensions in future may be made by those who incurred pensionable disabilities.

A LADY stood patiently before the receiving teller's window in a Broadway bank the other day, but no one took any notice of her till she attracted the attention of the money-taker by tapping with her parasol on the glass. "Why don't you ray attention to me?" she said, petulantly. "I'm sorry, ma'am, but we don't pay anything here. Next window, |lease," was the polite response .- N. Y. Commercial

Advertiser. THE Popular Science Monthly asks: "What are crowds?" It is not quite certain how science will handle this question; but the average common-school educated man knows that under some circumstagees three is considered a crowd .- N. O. Picayune.